

What Can Faculty Do to Ensure Best Value?

- Submit booklist adoptions as early as possible. This ensures that correct buyback quantities are put into place, and that used books can begin being sought from wholesale sources.
- Enlist the bookstore's help when considering the adoption of a package or bundle. The bookstore can assist faculty in knowing what the pricing will be to the student with all factors taken into consideration. If an item in a package is a "helpful bonus", but not required, consider whether there may be a better way to adopt the same material.
- Consider whether an adopted material is truly required, optional, or recommended.
- Work with publisher representatives to get the best price possible. When considering a package, see if the consumables can be bundled at a special price and the textbook to sell as an individual component.
- Use a book title for as long as possible. When a new edition is pending, check with publisher representatives to review what changes are being made. If the changes are not significant to the course instruction, contact the bookstore to work out how to keep the older edition in cycle, (i.e. custom publication, length of time old edition can still be located in conjunction with buyback, etc.).
- If you plan to test from a textbook, let the bookstore know. The bookstore can put that information on their shelf-tags so that the students will immediately see the value.
- Use a portion of the first day of class to educate the students on how the textbook, and/or bundled supplements will be used, why they were chosen, and what role they will play in the testing or grading of the course. For more ideas, see, "**Your Students Think They Don't Need Textbooks!**"
- Conduct a survey at the end of each semester that asks students for feedback on the benefit and value of the course materials they purchased. Ask them whether the materials were easy to interpret or use. Also ask them whether they found it valuable enough to keep as a reference for future courses on the same subject matter, or in the creation of their own personal library. If asked, they may surprise us.
- From helping to seek copyright clearance, to producing customized material, to providing publisher representative contact information, to working with the publisher representatives and faculty in the creation of a useful and price-effective bundle, know that the bookstore is willing to help you through the textbook adoption process at any point in time.